P29478.A02

Application No. 10/574,837

<u>REMARKS</u>

Claims 4, and 6-8 have been amended to change claim dependencies, and claims 9-13 have been added to include additional embodiments of claims previously amended to delete multiple claim dependencies. Support for the amendment to claims 4 and 6-8 can be found for example in original claims 4 and 6-8. Support for new claims 9-13 can be found in originally filed claims 4-8, respectively.

The amendments made herein have not been made to overcome prior art, and thus, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted, Mitsuhiro HORIO et al.

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